

Track & Field Sports Specific Committee
Wednesday, July 30, 2008
Notes

The Track and Field Sports Specific Committee met on Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel. Those present were as follows: Adam Kedge, Albuquerque Academy; Phil Sategna, Athletic Director; Joe Bailey, Moriarty High School; Joe Giglia, Cimarron High School; Lisa McMath, Fort Sumner High School; Wendell Lane, Cloudcroft High School; Wayne Ferguson, Tucumcari High School; Ronny Maskew, Ruidoso High School; Darrel Ray, Clovis High School; Kenny Henry, Cibola High School; Spencer Sieschott, Sandia High School; with Mario Martinez, NMAA Associate Director, presiding along with Robert Zayas, NMAA Assistant Director.

The meeting began with a review of the 2008 Track and Field State Championships and continued with the present agenda as follows:

- *Review 2008 State Championship:* Mr. Martinez started by giving an overview of the 2008 Track & Field State Championships. He stated that both meets went well and the communication with everyone was good. He added that having uniform inspectors worked out good, and we were able to avoid any uniform problems that we had in the past. Despite having to deal with the construction at the UNM Track facility, we were able to get through the construction issues fine. Charles Kromer, who is in charge of the implement weigh-in, had a cut off time of 15 minutes before the field events started. Next year, there will be a change; the cut off time will be 30 minutes before a scheduled field event. Mr. Martinez then asked the committee if any one had any questions about the state meet. Mr. Maskew stated that moving the athletes to the south field was the best thing we could have done. Mr. Martinez responded by saying we will continue to do that because it was a positive thing for the state meet. Mr. Lane said that the worst thing about the state meet, from a spectator's point of view, was the sound system in the bleachers. Mr. Sategna asked if we could possibly eliminate the problem by renting some speakers for the field to make it easier for spectators to hear the announcer. Mr. Martinez responded by saying that was an issue that he could look at correcting for next year. Mr. Lane offered some feedback about the athletes having to get off the track after relays. He said that the officials weren't very proactive about getting athletes off the track. Mr. Kedge proposed that we revisit the 4x200m relay stagger issues at the next meeting.
- *State Qualifying marks for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010:* Mr. Martinez informed the committee that he has the qualifying marks for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 track seasons. He said that he would have them available for review at the next Track Sports Specific Committee Meeting. Mr. Kedge said that the qualifying marks still need to be determined because of time and schedule issues. Mr. Sieschott had a concern about the pole vault qualification marks. He wanted to know if it was possible to make all the marks odd or even for meet management. A majority of the committee members agreed on this, but agreed to bring in any feedback about this issue to the next meeting. Mr. Lane wanted to

know if it was possible to introduce provisional qualifying marks, similar to the NCAA qualifying process. He said that by having a provisional qualifying time, we could eliminate all district qualifiers and we could just take the provisional qualifiers. This would mean that the state meet would truly consist of the very best athletes in each event. Mr. Kedge stated that we would need to adjust the marks so they are fair.

- *Time Schedules for 2009:* Mr. Martinez stated that he felt the time schedules for the State Meet were fine, and he would like to keep the same schedules for the 2009 Track & Field State Championships. He then passed out a copy of the schedules and asked if the committee would review them.
- *Potential Changes/Recommendations for 2009:* Mr. Bailey asked if it was possible to change the long jump and the triple jump so that they were on separate days. Mr. Ray also had a concern with the 800m open race and the 1600m medley race. Mr. Kedge said the current schedule gives other mid-distance runners the chance to do good by keeping the races close together. He also said that by keeping the two races close together, it gives coaches the option to make more tactical coaching decisions. It was decided that the A-AA State Track & Field Meet Schedule works and should remain the same. For the 3A-5A State Track & Field Meet Schedule, the committee would be interested in having the 800m and the 3200m race on Friday of the State Meet, and the 1600m and the 1600m medley finals on Saturday. Mr. Martinez said that he would go to the coaches and propose the changes; he would bring the feedback he collected to the next meeting.
- *Next Meeting:* The next meeting will be Monday, November 17th, 2008. At this meeting we will discuss the 2008-2009 State Track and Field time schedule as well as the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 qualifying marks.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m.